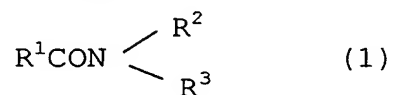


ABSTRACT

A lubricant for powder metallurgy comprises a polyhydroxycarboxylic acid amide of the following formula (1):



(wherein R^1 represents an alkyl group having from 2 to 10 carbon atoms and substituted with plural hydroxyl groups; R^2 represents a hydrocarbon group having from 8 to 30 carbon atoms; and R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms).

Using the lubricant for powder metallurgy improves both flowability and lubricity irrespective of the presence or absence of any complicated pretreatment step.